

Claims.

1. Butt-joining method comprising:

In two abutting metal strips punching a substantially rectangular slot into both abutments, inserting into said two slots a deformable slug, clinching it into said slots, thereby securely joining said strips.

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2. Butt-joining method as defined in claim 1 wherein said slots in both said abutments are keystone shaped instead of rectangular.
3. Butt-joining method as defined in claim 1 wherein said slots in both said abutments have two rounded edges produced by both a punch and a die.

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4. Butt-joining method as defined in claim 1 wherein said strips are of other material then metal.
5. Butt-joining method as defined in claim 1 wherein a plurality of slots are used.
6. Butt-joining method as defined in claim 2 wherein said keystone shaped slugs are also having said rounded corners.

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7. Butt-joining clinch method comprising:
8. Butt-joining clinch method as defined in claim 7 wherein said slots in both said abutments are keystone shaped instead of rectangular.

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9. Butt-joining clinch method as defined in claim 7 wherein said slots in both said abutments have two rounded edges produced by both a punch and a die.
10. Butt-joining clinch method as defined in claim 7 wherein said strips are of other material then metal.
11. Butt-joining clinch method as defined in claim 7 wherein a plurality of slots is used.
12. Butt-joining clinch method as defined in claim 7 wherein said clinching height is flush or slightly below the surface of said strip.